In order for Rural Broadband access to the Internet to stand up and be measured, the FCC should under take an initiative to provide a framework and/or resources to enable such measurements.

This initiative would consist of data gathering from the WISP community and, using that data, constructing a coverage map showing the areas around the US that independent network operators provide highspeed wireless access to the service to the public (which the FCC serves)

Such an undertaking might benefit from cooperation of wireless unregulated gear manufacturers who could "spec" their products which would be being entered into the model/database that would generate coverage maps automatically.

Data integrity issues not withstanding, such an initiative would integrate WISPs into the larger broadband industry that exists in the US today, and could even be the 1st steps towards creating the cellular BTA's of the future that will be mapping of broadband coverage as opposed to cellular coverage.

For more depth please feel free to contact me..